

THE PLAGUE AND ITS GRIP.

The week's plague deaths in Bombay amount to 334, and the total from all causes to 729. The lowest rate being 108.7. The normal total of deaths would be 746 for the week, and the normal death-rate 48.7. Yesterday there were 11 cases and 145 deaths from plague, and from all causes 281 deaths. The position continues to cause great anxiety.

GENERAL KITCHENER AND THE WAR CORRESPONDENTS.

The London Daily Telegraph says that Lord Salisbury has advised a modification of General Kitchener's prohibition against the war correspondents.

A MILITARY RULING.

Calcutta, 25th January. It is now officially notified that a Lieutenant-Colonel may if elected, be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in command of a Regiment or Battalion or any appointment therein by the Military Secretary.

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The proposed alteration in the law of sedition is meeting with strong opposition from all quarters. Practically the entire Indian Press, both European and Native, adversely criticise the measure.

A MAJOR KILLED AT POLO AT UNBHALA.

Bombay, 25th January. Major Winn of the 10th Cavalry, has been killed by a fall at polo at Unbhal.

THE FRONTIER OPERATIONS.

Bombay, 25th January. The flying column sent against the Akhikhs, occupying the hills between the Indus and the Arabian Sea, has been successful in driving them from the mountains.

The Indian Marine steamer *Patrol* has sailed from Karachi for Panaji and the Arabian Sea.

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AUCTION.

PUBLIC AUCTION OF LEASEHOLD PROPERTY.

THE Underigned has received instructions to sell by PUBLIC AUCTION on MONDAY, the 14th February, 1898, at 3 P.M., on the Premises, No. 141, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST, IN ONE LOT.

All that PARCELS OF GROUND registered in the Land Office as Section C of INLAND LOT 768, Victoria, Hongkong, with the messages or tenements thereon known as No. 141, QUEEN'S ROAD EAST.

The property is held under a Crown Lease of 99 years dated from 1862 and the annual Crown Rent is \$11.35.

For further Particulars, apply to GEORGE P. LAMBERT, Auctioneer, Hongkong, 8th February, 1898.

WANTED Engagement in Hongkong as a Coast Pilot or as a Clerk or Book-keeper by a European.

Apply to "D." Care of Office of this Paper, Hongkong, 8th February, 1898.

WANTED A EUROPEAN NURSE to look after three grown up Children. Apply by letter to "X. C." Care of Office of this Paper, Hongkong, 9th February, 1898.

VISSEIN'S DUTCH VEGETABLES For export to the East. Only sold by KWAN TAI, 110, Queen's Road, Hongkong, 1st February, 1898.

DANK HOLIDAYS. The Undermentioned Banks will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business at 11.45 A.M. on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, the 15th, 16th, and 17th inst. respectively.

For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA, T. H. WHITEHEAD, Manager, Hongkong.

For the NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED, GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Chief Manager, Hongkong.

For the MERCHANTS BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, JOHN THURBURN, Manager, Hongkong.

For the BANK OF CHINA & JAPAN, LIMITED, HONGKONG, E. L. HUNTER, Manager.

For the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED, S. OHIO, Agent, Hongkong, 10th February, 1898.

INSURANCE HOLIDAYS. THE Undermentioned Insurance Offices will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business at 11.45 A.M. on TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, and THURSDAY, the 15th, 16th, and 17th inst. respectively.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., General Agents, Union Insurance Office, Ltd., General Managers, HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD., N. J. EDE, Secretary, UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANADA, LTD., W. H. PERVAL, Agent, NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LTD., W. H. RAY, Secretary, CHINA TRADING INSURANCE CO., LTD., SHEDDEN, TOMES & CO., Agents, YAMATSEI INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, J. B. COUGHTRIE, Secretary, CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD., W. H. T. DAVIS, Manager, THE STRAITS INSURANCE CO., LTD., Hongkong, 9th February, 1898.

WING NAM & CO. HAVE FOR SALE MANILA CIGARS, CIGARETTES, AND TOBACCO, &c., Wholesale and Retail. Also JEWELLERY. No. 96, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, Hongkong, 1st February, 1898.

WILLIAM LYSAGHT & SONS. WANCHAI MACHINERY GODOWNS AND ENGINEERING ESTABLISHMENT. 1 to 8, Cross Lane, Wanchai.

A LARGE STOCK OF MACHINERY, by the best English makers, always on hand, such as Steam Engines, Boilers, Pumps, Steam Donkeys, Pumps, Hydraulic Presses, Sugar Mills, Marine Boilers and Engines, Stationary Boilers and Engines, Steel Boilers, Plates, Pipes, etc., etc.

We are now prepared to execute orders for the building or repairing of all kinds of machinery with quick despatch and good workmanship. Enquiries solicited for any of the above or the complete plant of any kind of machinery.

W. LYSAGHT, 139, Wanchai Road, Hongkong, 6th January, 1898.

CARBOLINUM-AVENARIUS USED FOR OVER 20 YEARS. Thoroughly reliable preservative for Wood and Stone against White Ants, Decay, Fungus Rot, and Dampness. Sole Agents for China, LUTGENS, FINESTMAN & CO., Hongkong, 31st August, 1897.

EXPORT CARGOES. The P. & O. steamer *Oryon*, sailed on the 5th February. For London, 18 tons of tea, 2 cases of sugar, 2 cases of rice, 2 cases of flour, 2 cases of oil, 2 cases of wine, 2 cases of spirits, 2 cases of fruit, 2 cases of vegetables, 2 cases of other goods.

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NOTICE OF FIRM.

MR. ANTHONY RABINGTON has this Day been authorized to Sign our Firm per procuratione SHEWAN, TOMES & CO., Hongkong, 7th February, 1898.

"MELDUR" FURNACES. THESE FURNACES are specially adapted for coal dust, coke dust, and fuel of an inferior quality, and by their use a great saving is effected generally. Smoke is reduced to a minimum and boiler power largely increased.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., Agents for Hongkong & China, Hongkong, 29th January 1898.

YUBARI COAL. I AM now importing this well known Coal direct from the Mines in Japan.

YUBARI COAL has been proved most suitable for Ironworks, Steamers, Manufacturing, &c. I am also importing MOUJI COALS and have always a large stock on hand.

Interested purchasers are respectfully requested to communicate with the undersigned, and all orders will receive prompt attention.

CHAN A. TONG, Coal Merchant, No. 34, Prince Central, Hongkong, 1st February, 1898.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO'S. PRICE \$10.75 PER DOZEN NET.

"SPECIAL BLEND" WHISKY. Blend of Selected Distillates of the Finest Scotch Whiskies.

Apply to SIMPSON & CO., Hongkong, 1st February, 1898.

CUTLER, PALMER & CO. WINE SHIPPERS SINCE 1855. Who have consigned their Branches to Hongkong and for over half a century.

Apply to G. C. ANDERSON, Hongkong, 13, Prince Central.

NAPIER JOHNSTONS. SQUARE BOTTLE WHISKY. The sale of this good Scotch Whisky increases month by month. It is of Superb Quality and is sold by CUTLER, PALMER & CO'S, Sole Agents for Hongkong.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO., Hongkong.

KELLY & WALSH, LIMITED. Ruff's Turf Guide—Winter Edition. \$3.40. Drummond's Ideal Life. \$3.40.

Racing and Chasing, by Watson. \$1.50. Sport and Travel in India and Ceylon. \$1.50.

America. \$1.50. Interpretation of the New Regulations for the prevention of Collisions at Sea, by H. E. Follock. \$1.50.

Pearson's Magazine, Vol. 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 21st, 22nd, 23rd, 24th, 25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th, 30th, 31st, 32nd, 33rd, 34th, 35th, 36th, 37th, 38th, 39th, 40th, 41st, 42nd, 43rd, 44th, 45th, 46th, 47th, 48th, 49th, 50th, 51st, 52nd, 53rd, 54th, 55th, 56th, 57th, 58th, 59th, 60th, 61st, 62nd, 63rd, 64th, 65th, 66th, 67th, 68th, 69th, 70th, 71st, 72nd, 73rd, 74th, 75th, 76th, 77th, 78th, 79th, 80th, 81st, 82nd, 83rd, 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th, 88th, 89th, 90th, 91st, 92nd, 93rd, 94th, 95th, 96th, 97th, 98th, 99th, 100th.

Life of Sir Stamford Raffles, by D. C. Brown. \$1.50. The History of the British Empire, by G. P. R. \$1.50.

Chamber's Biographical Dictionary (over 10,000 names). \$1.50. The Encyclopedia of Sport, Edited by the Editor of the Field, Profusely Illustrated. \$1.50.

For India and Ceylon, by G. P. R. \$1.50. Sandow's Strength and How to Obtain It. \$1.50.

Crickets Crickets, by Douglas Moffat. \$1.50. The History of the British Empire, by G. P. R. \$1.50.

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BANKS.

THE MERCHANTS BANK OF INDIA LIMITED. AUTHORIZED CAPITAL. £1,500,000. SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL. £1,125,000. PAID UP CAPITAL. £687,500. RESERVE FUND. £20,000.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent. on the Daily balance. On Fixed Deposits: For 12 months. 4 1/2 %

For 6 months. 4 % For 3 months. 3 1/2 % For 1 month. 3 %

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA. INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853. HEAD OFFICE, LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP. £800,000. RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS. £200,000. RESERVE FUND. £275,000.

INTEREST allowed on Current Accounts at the rate of 2 1/2 per cent. on the Daily balance. On Fixed Deposits: For 12 months. 4 1/2 %

For 6 months. 4 % For 3 months. 3 1/2 % For 1 month. 3 %

THE HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. AUTHORIZED CAPITAL. £10,000,000. SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL. £7,000,000. PAID UP CAPITAL. £3,500,000. RESERVE FUND. £10,000,000.

COURT OF DIRECTORS. ST. C. MICHAELSON, Esq., Chairman. Hon. J. B. LITTLE, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

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VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

NORTH PACIFIC STEAMSHIP CO.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

VIA SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, KORE AND YOKOHAMA.

FOR VICTORIA, B.C. AND TACOMA
IN CONNECTION WITH
NORTH PACIFIC RAILWAY CO.

Steamer	Tonnage	Proposed Sailing	Steamer	Tonnage	Proposed Sailing
VICTORIA	3,107	Feb. 22	BRADMAN	3,801	March 10
OLYMPIA	2,608	Feb. 29	MOCHI	3,651	March 17
TACOMA	2,608	March 6	ARROYO	3,907	March 24

The attention of passengers is directed to the very cheap rates offered by this line to the PACIFIC COAST and to the INTERIOR and EASTERN CITIES of the UNITED STATES and to EUROPE.

HONGKONG TO LONDON, 247.
Excellent accommodation. First class Table, Doctor and Stewardess served.
Passengers to EUROPE may proceed by one of the First-Class ATLANTIC MAIL LINES.
HONGKONG TO NEW YORK, 241.
The Railroad travelling is second to none on the American Continent. Magnificent scenery of the Rocky and Cascade Mountains. The Yellowstone National Park route.
HONGKONG TO VICTORIA, TACOMA, or PORTLAND, 228.

The best route to the Klamath Gold Fields. Frequent sailings from VICTORIA, TACOMA, and PORTLAND to DEER and ST. MICHAEL.
Rates of Passage to other points on application.
Through Bills of Lading issued to Pacific Coast Points, and to Canadian and United States Ports.

Consular Invoices of Goods for United States Ports should be in quadruplicate, and one copy must be sent forward by the steamer to the care of the Freight Agent, Northern Pacific Railway, Tacoma, Wash. For Goods forwarded via that port and to the Freight Agent, Oregon Railroad and Navigation Co., Portland, Oregon, for Goods shipped by that route.

Passes must be sent to our Office (with address marked in full) by 5 P.M. on the day previous to sailing.
For further information as to Freight or Freight, apply to
DODWELL, CARROLL & CO.,
General Agents.
Hongkong, 11th February, 1898.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.
(THE JAPAN MAIL STEAMSHIP COMPANY).

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG—SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

STEAMERS	DISTINCTIONS	SAILING DATES
KAGOME MARU	SEATTLE, WASH., U.S.A. via KORE	Monday, 14th February, at Daylight.
ISUMI MARU	KORE & YOKOHAMA	Thursday, 17th February, at 4 P.M.
KAMAKURA MARU	MARSHALLS, LONDON, & ANTWERP, via SINGAPORE (Transit) carrying Cargo for Java Ports, Penang, Ceylon, & Hongkong by that route.	Thursday, 17th February, at 4 P.M.
SAGAMI MARU	SHANGHAI, JINSHAN, SHIMODZU, & KORE	Friday, 18th February, at 4 P.M.
TOKIO MARU	NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	Monday, 21st February, at 4 P.M.
MANUJAMA MARU	BOMBAY, via SINGAPORE (Transit) carrying Cargo for Java Ports, Penang, Ceylon, & Hongkong by that route.	Tuesday, 22nd February, at Noon.
J. Nisi	SYDNEY & MELBOURNE via THURSDAY ISLAND, TOWNVILLE, & BRISBANE	Friday, 26th February, at 4 P.M.

*Through Passenger Tickets and Bills of Lading issued for the Principal Cities in the United States, Canada and Europe, in connection with the GREAT NORTHERN RAILWAY and Atlantic Steamers.

For further information as to Freight, Passage, Shipments, etc., apply at the Company's Local Branch Office at No. 7, Prince Street.

A. S. MISHARA,
Manager.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO SAIL ON	REMARKS
LONDON, &c.	GANGES	Noon, 15th February	See Special Advertisement.
LONDON	SHANGHAI	About 19th February	Freight or Passage.
NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	BENAL	About 20th February	Freight or Passage.
SHANGHAI	S. G. D. Andrews, R.M.S.	About 25th February	Freight.
NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	S. G. D. Andrews, R.M.S.	About 26th February	Freight or Passage.
SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	BENAL	About 27th February	Freight or Passage.
LONDON	BENAL	About 28th February	Freight or Passage.

Hongkong, 9th February, 1898.

CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY COY.'S
ROYAL MAIL STEAMSHIP LINE.

THE FAST ROUTE BETWEEN CHINA, JAPAN AND EUROPE, VIA CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

CALLING AT SHANGHAI, NAGASAKI, KORE, YOKOHAMA AND VICTORIA, B.C.

SAFETY. SPEED. PUNCTUALITY.
Twin Screw Steamships—6,000 Tons—10,000 Horse-Power—Speed 19 knots.

PROPOSED SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

EMPEROR OF INDIA	Comdr. O. P. Marshall, R.M.S.	WEDNESDAY, 16th Feb. 1898
EMPEROR OF JAPAN	Comdr. G. A. Lee, R.M.S.	WEDNESDAY, 16th Mar. 1898
EMPEROR OF CHINA	Comdr. H. Pybus, R.M.S.	WEDNESDAY, 6th April 1898

THE magnificent TWIN-SCREW STEAMSHIPS of this Line pass through the famous INLAND SEA OF JAPAN, and usually make the voyage YOKOHAMA to VANCOUVER in 12 days, saving THREE DAYS to a WEEK in the Trans-Pacific journey and make connection at Vancouver with the PALATIAL TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS of the CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILWAY, which leave daily, and cross the Continent from THE PACIFIC TO THE ATLANTIC WITHOUT CHANGE. Close connection is made at Montreal, Quebec, Halifax, New York and Boston with all Trans-Atlantic Lines, which passengers to Great Britain and the Continent are given choice of.

Passengers booked through to all principal ports and across the Continent. Return tickets to various points of interest, good for 4, 6, 8, 9, and 12 months.

SPECIAL RATES (First class only) granted to Missionaries, Members of the Naval, Military, Diplomatic, and Civil Services, and to European Officials in the Service of China and Japan.

The attractive features of this Company's route embrace the PALATIAL STEAMSHIPS (second to none in the world), the LUXURIOUS of its TRANS-CONTINENTAL TRAINS (the Company having received the highest award for recent Chicago World Exhibition), and the diversity of MAGNIFICENT MOUNTAIN AND LAKE SCENERY through which the railway passes.

THE DINING CARS and MOUNTAIN HOTELS of this route are owned and operated by the Company, and their appointments and cuisine are unequalled.

For further information, Maps, Guide Books, Rates of Passage, etc., apply to
D. E. BROWN, General Agent,
Felder Street.
Hongkong, 20th January, 1898.

NORDEUTSCHER LLOYD.

STEAM TO YOKOHAMA, KORE, AND NAGASAKI.
(Passing through the INLAND SEA.)
THE Company's Steamship

"HOLZENTHLEN."
Captain H. Becker will be dispatched for the above port on TUESDAY, the 11th inst., at 3 A.M.
For further Particulars apply to
MELCHERS & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 10th February, 1898.

FOR SINGAPORE, HAYRE AND HAMBURG.
(Calling at NAPLES for landing Passengers if sufficient income of office).
Taking Cargo through rates to ANTWERP, AMSTERDAM, ROTTERDAM, LONDON, GERMANY, LIVERPOOL, and BRUSSELS.
THE Company's Steamship

"IRENE."
Captain R. Schneider will be dispatched for the above port on TUESDAY, the 12th inst., at 3 P.M.
This Steamer has superior accommodation for First and Second Class Passengers and carries a Doctor and a Stewardess.

For Freight or Passage, apply to
MELCHERS & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, 9th February, 1898.

VESSELS ADVERTISED AS LOADING.

DESTINATION.	VESSEL'S NAME.	LAG & REG.	CAPTAIN.	FOR FREIGHT APPLY TO	TO BE DESPATCHED.
LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL	Diomed	Bellet str.	Bartlett	Butterfield & Swire	On 19th inst.
LONDON	Shetland	Brit. str.	Blair	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On or about 19th inst.
LONDON	Smara	Brit. str.	Jones	Wielor & Co.	February.
LONDON	Bernao	Brit. str.	Lyons, R.N.M.	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On or about 5th March.
LONDON VIA STRAITS, &c.	Ganges	Brit. str.	Greory	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 15th inst., at Noon.
LONDON VIA STRAITS, &c.	Flagship	Brit. str.	Davies	Hollings, Wiles & Co.	On 15th inst., Daylight.
LONDON VIA PORTS OF CALL	Ger. str.	Ger. str.	Helmreich & Co.	On 1st Mar., at 9 A.M.	
ANTWERP, BREMEN, HAMBURG, &c.	Durandist	Ger. str.	Schneider	Melchers & Co.	On or about 15th inst.
MARSHALLS, LONDON, &c.	Kamakura Maru	Jap. str.	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 17th inst., at 4 P.M.	
MARSHALLS VIA SINGAPORE, &c.	Taru	From str.	La Compagnie	Messageries Maritimes	On or about 19th inst.
YOKOHAMA, KORE & NAGASAKI	Dr. de Indis	Brit. str.	Porter	Goodwin, Pender & Co.	On 16th inst., at Noon.
PORTLAND, OREGON VIA KORE	Bromar	Brit. str.	Porter	Goodwin, Pender & Co.	On 16th March, at Noon.
SEATTLE, WINGTOW, V. KORE, &c.	Kagoshima Maru	Jap. str.	Shikard	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 14th inst., Daylight.
VICTORIA, B.C. & TACOMA, V. SHANGHAI	Victoria	Drk. str.	Traubridge	Goodwin, Pender & Co.	On 22nd inst., at Noon.
BALTIMORE	Standard	Brit. str.	Snow	O. & C. S. B. Co.	On 22nd inst., at Noon.
NEW YORK VIA SHANGHAI	China	Brit. str.	Townsend	P.-M. S. B. Co.	To-morrow, at Noon.
NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL	Ghaize	Brit. str.	Doedel, Cribben & Co.	On about 26th inst.	
NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL	Elydenborn	Brit. str.	Doedel, Cribben & Co.	On about 26th inst.	
NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL	Lyons	Brit. str.	Lyons, R.N.M.	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On 20th inst., Daylight.
NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	Scotia	Brit. str.	Paine, J.M.B.	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On or about 26th inst.
NAGASAKI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	Toku Maru	Jap. str.	Thavelli	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 21st inst., at 4 P.M.
KORE & YOKOHAMA	Ideau Maru	Jap. str.	Nunoco	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 17th inst., at 4 P.M.
YOKOHAMA, KORE & NAGASAKI	Chobellera	Brit. str.	Wright	Messageries Maritimes	On 17th inst., at Noon.
SHANGHAI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	Oceanion	French str.	Shavilla	Messageries Maritimes	On or about 15th inst.
SHANGHAI, KORE & YOKOHAMA	Sunda	Brit. str.	Andrews, R.N.M.	P. & Q. S. N. Co.	On or about 5th March.
SHANGHAI & KORE	Maria Valerio	Aust. str.	Milia	Sander & Co.	To-morrow.
SHANGHAI, JINSHAN, &c.	Begun Maru	Jap. str.	Heral	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 15th inst., at 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	Lyons	Jap. str.	Lyons, R.N.M.	P. & O. S. N. Co.	To-day, at 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	Sachsen	Ger. str.	Symper	Melchers & Co.	To-day, at 4 P.M.
SHANGHAI	Bengal	Brit. str.	Wibner, R.N.M.	P. & O. S. N. Co.	On or about 20th inst.
SHANGHAI & CHINKING	Paigning	Ger. str.	Kohler	Siemens & Co.	To-morrow, at 4 P.M.
MANILA DEL	Colmar	Brit. str.	Colmar	Siemens & Co.	To-day, at 4 P.M.
MANILA DEL	Sungking	Brit. str.	Dold	Butterfield & Swire	To-morrow, at 5 P.M.
SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, &c.	Chelgren	Brit. str.	Janes	Butterfield & Swire	On 15th inst., at 3 P.M.
SYDNEY, MELBOURNE, &c.	Oni Maru	Jap. str.	Young	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 24th inst., at 4 P.M.
SINGAPORE, HAYNE & HAMBURG.	Irene	Ger. str.	Schneider	Siemens & Co.	To-morrow, at 4 P.M.
				Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 22nd inst., at Noon.